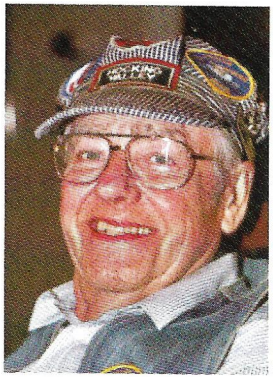
# Robert Stetson earns MMR 304

Reading over a few of his fellow Master Model Railroaders' biographical sketches, Robert found that most seemed to have started with a "Train around the Christmas tree" gift at a very young age. Although most received a Lionel train set, he received an American Flyer set. He still has very warm feelings for the years his brother Bill and he spent running those trains. His train activity even included a huge Buddy-L set in the back yard; the power was supplied by their feet. The train around the Christmas tree continues to this day.

It was after World War II and marriage that Bob found time to again think about trains. A lot of thinking came and went while he worked for the S.S. Kresge Co. in places like Marion and Fostoria, Ohio. These places were full of trains! Finally with his first daughter came a house with a small basement. His first layout was a figure eight, up-and-over track plan on a 4x8-foot sheet of plywood on two saw horses. A little scenery and some structures made it quite an effort. A rain storm which deposited 18" of water in his basement finished this layout. No wonder the name of the street he lived on was "Lake Street". All future layout planning in this basement included a four inch clearance for anything near the floor. The next layout was an around-the-wall with several projections which take up the entire basement. The layout is HO scale with narrow-gauge track intermingled. The layout is currently being changed over to DCC from Keller Onboard control.



Bob became an NMRA Life Member in 1972 and a Life Member of the Baltimore and Ohio Historical Society in 1988. He helped organize and start the Hocking Valley Model Railroad Club, which is still active in Lancaster, Ohio. He was president of the club for many years and helped it procure its current two buildings. The club has both HO and N-scale layouts in operation with the HO layout now being converted to DCC. Division 6 of the Mid Central Region has been the mainstay of his model railroad experience and is where he is currently serving as a Trustee. Bob has attended nearly all the NMRA National Conventions since Chicago in 1976. A really great and fun time.

Bob holds Achievement Certificates in Scenery, Structures, Motive Power, Civil Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Association Volunteer, and Chief Dispatcher. He considers being a Master Model Railroader a great honor in a great organization.